

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

FRIDAY, JAN. 17.—8 P. M.

The advance of yesterday was not sustained in the gold market this morning, and prior to the opening of the board sales were made at 135½; but after the formal commencement of business the range of the day was from 135½ to 139½, with the closing transaction prior to the adjournment at 138½; following which there was considerable pressure to sell, which forced a decline, and the latest quotation was 135½ or 135¾. The "short" interest being lighter than usual, the borrowing demand was not equal to the supply, and loans were made at rates for carrying ranging from 10 per cent per annum and at 1-2 per cent per cent. The gross clearings amounted to \$55,953,000, the gold balances to \$1,985,465 and the currency balances to \$2,925,633. There was little or no excitement in the dealings, owing to the reassuring character of the news from Washington, and the volume of speculative business was smaller than it has been for several days past, owing to many of the principal operators having withdrawn from the market.

The stock market has been firm, with an upward tendency, although the improvement was resisted by a party of prominent bears who have been selling "short" heavily since Friday last. The "short" interest outstanding is now considerable, and this will serve to limitate the rise to which all the material conditions affecting speculation on the Stock Exchange are favorable. The supply of money is increasing, and loans on mixed collateral are made mainly at six per cent, with exceptional transactions at five and seven, the regular rate being generally asked by the private bankers for small and moderate amounts. First class commercial paper is in limited supply and rated on the street at 7 to 7½, while the banks discount it without hesitation for their customers at the legal rate.

The House Committee of Ways and Means has non-subsidized in the Senate amendment to the anti-slavery bill, but this is an unimportant circumstance and will in no wise endanger the final result. The bill will have to be sent back to the Senate, and a committee of conference must agree as to the wording of the act. The bill reported by the Committee of Ways and Means this morning to limit the amount of internal revenue to \$150,000,000 per annum and confine taxation mainly to distilled spirits and fermented liquors, tobacco, stamps, special taxes, incomes, dividends, luxuries and amusements, banks and railroads, gross receipts and legacies and successions, is a step in the right direction and entitled to the serious attention of both houses of Congress. This will have for its object the reduction of taxation, which is at present excessive, and the reduction of the number of articles taxed, which are now almost too numerous to mention. In this way the cost of collecting the revenue may be largely diminished and the reduced scale of taxation will tend to enforce economy in the public expenditures. The people have been strung too long under heavy burdens, and the public credit will be strengthened by the practical relief which this reduction of taxation will afford. The currency question has been already satisfactorily acted upon in both houses, and there is reason to hope that equal sympathy will be exhibited in relation to the revenue. Meanwhile it is unsatisfactory to find that the bill repealing the tax on cotton should have been treated by the Senate in the manner it was. A more suspension of the tax for a year is little better than a farce, and offers but slight inducement for the planters to persevere in cotton cultivation in the face of great obstacles. The state of the cotton trade requires the abolition of the tax, and no half-way measure like the one proposed by the Senate would answer the object in view. Let the Senate, therefore, reconsider its amendment and adopt the bill as it was passed by the House.

Governor's securities continue in good investment demand at the hands of the leading dealers, and the market for them has a very firm underpinning, although for the time being speculation is rather quiet. During the afternoon quotations advanced ½ a cent for fives, twenty, forty, and fifty-cent pieces, and the public funds were sold at 7½% in London. At the close the subjoined prices were current, the market being then steady.—Registered, 1881, 160%; a 109½%; coupon, 1881, 109½%; a 109%; 5-20's, registered, 1882, 105%; a 105%; 5-20's, coupon, 1882, 105%; a 105%; 5-20's, registered, 1883, 105%; a 105%; 5-20's, registered, 1884, 105%; a 105%; 5-20's, registered, 1885, January and July, 105%; a 105%; 5-20's, registered, 1886, 105%; a 105%; 5-20's, registered, 1887, 105%; a 105%; 10-40's, registered, 102%; a 102%; 10-40's, coupon, 102%; a 102%; June 7.30%, 105%; July 7.30%, 105%; August do., 105%; a 105%; September do., 110%; a 110%; October do., 115%; a 110%. At the commencement of business the stock market was firm at a slight advance upon the closing prices of fast evening, and at the regular session of the open board Erie sold at 74½ and Michigan Southern at 87. At the first regular board railway shares were firm. New York Central, Erie and Mich. and Southern were the strongest, but Erie Rail was weak and declined to 105½, owing to an impression which prevails that the company will pass the next dividend; but with regard to this the board of directors have arrived at no decision as yet. Atlantic Mail was heavy in sympathy. New York Central closed ½ higher than at the same time yesterday, Erie ½, Michigan Southern ½, Illinois Central was ½ lower, Rock Island ½, Northwestern ½, do. preferred ½, Fort Wayne ½, Milwaukee and St. Paul ½, do. preferred ½, Pacific Mail 4½, Atlantic Mail 6, Canton ½, Western Union Telegraph ½, Government securities were dull. Coupon five-cent of 1862 closed ½ lower, issue of 1844, issue of 1865 ½. Express shares were dull at a decline of ½ a cent.

After the call the market became stronger, and Erie was in brisk demand at 75 to 75½. At the time of close open board shares were increased activity and firmness, and Erie sold at 75, Michigan Southern at 87½, and Rock Island at 90½. At the second regular board the market was quite firm. New York Central closed ½ higher than at the first regular board, Erie ½, Hudson River ½, Cleveland and Pittsburgh ½, Milwaukee and St. Paul preferred ½, Pacific Mail 2½, Canton ½, Western Union Telegraph ½, Illinois Central was ½ lower, Rock Island and Toledo ½, Northwestern preferred ½, Fort Wayne ½, Milwaukee and St. Paul ½, do. preferred ½, Pacific Mail 4½, Atlantic Mail 6, Canton ½, Western Union Telegraph ½, Government securities were dull. Coupon five-cent of 1862 closed ½ lower, issue of 1844, issue of 1865 ½. Express shares were dull at a decline of ½ a cent.

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The foreign exchange market was dull, and the rates for sterling experienced a further fractional decline, but there was no change in those on continental cities. The recent advance in gold has had the effect of stimulating exports of produce, and thus the supply of commercial bills has been increased, while bills have been drawn to a moderate amount against shipments of five-twenty. At the same time the demand from importers is limited. Bankers' bills on England at sixty days were quoted at the close at 100%; a 105%; at three days, 110%; a 110%; commercial bills, 105%; a 105%; Bills on Paris at sixty days, 105%; a 105%; at three days, 6½%; a 6½%.

The value of the imports of dry goods at this port for the week ending January 16 compares with the previous week as follows:

	Jan. 9.	Jan. 16.
Manufactures of wool.	\$10,204	\$10,251
Manufactures of cotton.	120,704	120,705
Manufactures of silk.	13	25
Manufactures of flax.	209	209
Miscellaneous.	209	211
Total.	1,029	1,020

Total, \$209,403 1,020, \$209,420

Manufactures of wool. 118 \$51,173 702 \$287,402
Manufactures of cotton. 183 46,113 902 231,855
Manufactures of silk. 123 123 123
Manufactures of flax. 201 51,924 120,425
Miscellaneous. 24 12,092 410 74,055

Total..... 659 220,078 2,5, 8 \$281,551

The receipts for customs and the receipts, payments and balances at the Sub-Treasury in this city for the expired portion of the week have been as follows:

Customs.	Receipts.	Payments.	Balance.
Jan. 13.	\$2,528,107	\$2,555,754	\$9,795,403
Jan. 14.	270,575	469,273	500,128
Jan. 15.	226,779	2,470,807	1,858,863 101,028,559
Jan. 16.	258,634	5,835,863	103,820,409
Jan. 17.	193,000	2,045,379	735,207 102,263,157

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, Jan. 17.—10½ A. M.

Stocks.	Shares.	Price.	Value.
US 5% 31.	120,107	\$2,555,754	\$9,795,403
US 5% 30.	100	100	100
US 5% 29.	100	100	100
US 5% 28.	100	100	100
US 5% 27.	100	100	100
US 5% 26.	100	100	100
US 5% 25.	100	100	100
US 5% 24.	100	100	100
US 5% 23.	100	100	100
US 5% 22.	100	100	100
US 5% 21.	100	100	100
US 5% 20.	100	100	100
US 5% 19.	100	100	100
US 5% 18.	100	100	100
US 5% 17.	100	100	100
US 5% 16.	100	100	100
US 5% 15.	100	100	100
US 5% 14.	100	100	100
US 5% 13.	100	100	100
US 5% 12.	100	100	100
US 5% 11.	100	100	100
US 5% 10.	100	100	100
US 5% 9.	100	100	100
US 5% 8.	100	100	100
US 5% 7.	100	100	100
US 5% 6.	100	100	100
US 5% 5.	100	100	100
US 5% 4.	100	100	100
US 5% 3.	100	100	100
US 5% 2.	100	100	100
US 5% 1.	100	100	100
US 5% 0.	100	100	100
US 4% 9.	100	100	100
US 4% 8.	100	100	100
US 4% 7.	100	100	100
US 4% 6.	100	100	100
US 4% 5.	100	100	100
US 4% 4.	100	100	100
US 4% 3.	100	100	100
US 4% 2.	100	100	100
US 4% 1.	100	100	100
US 4% 0.	100	100	100
US 3% 9.	100	100	100
US 3% 8.	100	100	100
US 3% 7.	100	100	100
US 3% 6.	100	100	100
US 3% 5.	100	100	100
US 3% 4.	100	100	100
US 3% 3.	100	100	100
US 3% 2.	100	100	100
US 3% 1.	100	100	100
US 3% 0.	100	100	100
US 2% 9.	100	100	100
US 2% 8.	100	100	100
US 2% 7.	100	100	100
US 2% 6.	100	100	100
US 2% 5.	100	100	100
US 2% 4.	100	100	100
US 2% 3.	100	100	100
US 2% 2.	100	100	100
US 2% 1.	100	100	100
US 2% 0.	100	100	100
US 1% 9.	100	100	100
US 1% 8.	100	100	100
US 1% 7.	100	100	100
US 1% 6.	100	100	100
US 1% 5.	100	100	100
US 1% 4.	100	100	100
US 1% 3.	100	100	100
US 1% 2.	100	100	100
US 1% 1.	100	100	100
US 1% 0.	100	100	100
US 0% 9.	100	100	100
US 0% 8.	100	100	100
US 0% 7.	100	100	100
US 0% 6.	100	100	100
US 0% 5.	100	100	100
US 0% 4.	100	100	100
US 0% 3.	100	100	100
US 0% 2.	100	100	100
US 0% 1.	100	100	100
US 0% 0.	100	100	100
US 5% 1.	100	100	100